

REMARKS

The Office action dated July 18, 2003 and the cited references have been carefully considered.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-16, 19-33 are pending.

Claims 1-8, 12-16, 19-29, and 31-33 are allowed. The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-18, 12-16, 19-29, and 31-33 are allowed.

Claims 9-11 and 30 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 10-13 of copending Application No. 09/681,686. The Applicants are submitting herewith a terminal disclaimer to obviate this obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Therefore, these claims are now in condition for allowance. Early allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Toan P. Vo, Ph.D.
Attorney for the Applicants
Registration No. 43,225
(518)387-6648

Schenectady, New York
August 18, 2003